

## SEÑORITA MOLINA

A Story of the Cuban Revolution

By ESTHER VANDEVEER

While the revolution that brought independence to Cuba was brewing the government of Spain through the governor of the island used every effort to secure the adhesion of prominent Cubans. Among those whom it was deemed desirable to win over was a lawyer named Enrique Fernandez, who was becoming prominent in his profession. One Jose Molina was summoned one day before Captain General Weyler and ordered either to win Fernandez by argument or bribery or force. Weyler at the time had unlimited power, and his orders were not to be disobeyed.

Molina was an elderly man and the father of a family of children, one of whom, Rosa, was grown. Fernandez was about thirty years old and unmarried. Molina invited Fernandez to his house that he might have an opportunity to persuade him to align himself on the side of the Spanish government. Fernandez accepted the invitation, listened to his host's arguments, but was unconvinced.

Molina noticed that Fernandez cast admiring eyes on Senorita Rosa, and it occurred to him that what he himself could not accomplish by argument his daughter might bring about by persuasion. The father therefore held a private interview with her, at which he said:

"My child, I have been ordered by the captain general to bring Senor Fernandez to the support of the Spanish cause either by argument or force. I have tried the former and failed. The latter course remains. I must tell my guest that the Spanish government demands his adhesion or his life. At times a woman may accomplish by persuasion what a man cannot effect by argument. If you could win over Senor Fernandez you might save his life."

"But, father," asked Rosa, "why are you obliged to do this work?"

"General Weyler is an autocrat in Cuba. He may send me to prison or to death, whichever he chooses."

The girl paled. She did not speak for some time. Then she said:

"Do you wish me to win Senor Fernandez's adhesion to the crown by first winning his love?"

"I do not. I would rather suffer than have you do anything dishonorable."

Again there was a silence, at the end of which Rosa threw her arms about her father's neck and assured him that she would do anything honorable to save him from the consequences of failure.

What made this duty odious to Rosa Molina was that she was heart and soul for the cause of Cuba. One morning she sat on the veranda of her home with Fernandez and began to reason with him why he should embrace the cause of Spain. He listened to her while she spoke hesitatingly and without animation, and when she came to a halt he said:

"Tell me the truth. Your heart is not with Spain; it is with Cuba. There is some reason why you are endeavoring to win me to a cause with which you do not sympathize yourself."

Rosa did not dare tell him what he wished to know. If he should do so he might betake himself beyond her father's reach, and the latter would have to suffer for his failure. She would not tell an untruth. Rising from her seat, she went into the house, leaving Fernandez wondering what all this meant.

Senorita Molina sought her father and told him that she had tried to influence Fernandez, but had failed because she was unfitted to plead a cause to which she was bitterly opposed. Molina sighed, but the sigh was his only reply. Rosa was much troubled. She asked him many questions. If he reported a failure to the governor would he be imprisoned? What would be her next move in respect to Fernandez? What did General Weyler mean by using force to secure the latter's adhesion? She received no reply. Whether her father was himself uncertain in regard to these matters she did not know. The only information she received was that either her father or Fernandez must suffer.

Rosa left her father to shut herself up in her room that she might form some plan of action. Would it not be best for her to tell Fernandez of the situation and trust to him to find some way to save her father? This would be trusting too much to a man whom she had known but a short while. If he should take himself off to the revolutionists Rosa would feel that she had betrayed her father.

Fernandez, who suspected the source of this pressure which had been brought to bear upon him, would have departed had not been interested in these persons who he believed were made the unwilling tools of the Spanish government. More than this, he was powerfully drawn toward Rosa. It occurred to him to pretend to be uncertain as to which cause he would espouse in order that he might gain time for observation in the hope that he would be able to solve the mystery. So long as there was any hope of a willing surrender there was no reason to use force, and day after day passed with no change in the situation.

Meanwhile the attorney was falling in love with Rosa Molina. Nevertheless he could see no evidence that she regarded him in the same light. For some reason unknown to him she seemed to look upon him with a sort of dread. One day he said to her:

"Senorita, you and your father have some interest in wishing me to support the Spanish government. To convince you that you can safely confide in me I will tell you something which you do not suspect. I love you. Tell me the source of your efforts to convert me to a cause that you not approve. I swear to you not only on the honor of a gentleman, but as one who loves you, that I will not betray you; that if either you or your father or I must suffer it shall be I."

Rosa at this avowal gave a quick gasp, and an expression of pain crossed her face.

"You have only added to the complication that besets us all," she said. "If I could assure you that your love was returned it might simplify matters, for we might then come to a mutual understanding. As it is, to tell you what threatens us would be to invite a sacrifice on your part without being able to reward you for making it. If you have seen anything in me to warrant your avowal you have been mistaken."

"I have seen nothing to warrant an avowal, and I am not surprised to receive an unfavorable response. I have made my confession that you may understand that you have nothing to fear from me—that my life is at your service."

Naturally these words had a powerful effect upon Rosa Molina. She fixed her gaze on the speaker with an expression that it was difficult for him to interpret. It seemed to be a mingling of awe and reverence. But there was no love in it. After thus looking intently at him for a few moments she said:

"Leave me to think over all this. So many strange things have followed upon one another so closely that I am bewildered."

Meanwhile Senor Molina was acting irrespective of anything that was taking place between these two. Weyler had become impatient and given him a definite and imperative order. One morning Molina summoned Fernandez into his private room and said to him:

"Senor, the government demands your influence and your efforts to assist in putting down this rebellion against the authority of the king of Spain."

"And what if I refuse?"

"You will pass into the hands of the governor general. I cannot answer for your life."

"You can answer for my death. Those who go into General Weyler's parlors never come out. You have my reply. Long live Cuba and Cuban independence!"

With this Fernandez turned to leave the apartment. Molina stopped him.

"You cannot leave this house."

"Why not?"

"It is surrounded by Spanish soldiers."

Fernandez paused. He had been hasty in giving a definite answer.

"Am I to be taken from here immediately?" he asked.

"Unless you recall your reply."

"Give me time."

"My instructions are to require an answer within twenty-four hours."

"Very well. Before tomorrow noon, I will choose between life for Spain or death for Cuba."

The Spanish fleet had been destroyed. Santiago had fallen. Cuban independence had been achieved. Sufficient time had elapsed for the Pearl of the Antilles to become the pearl of her own people. Enrique Fernandez was now a judge on the bench. Quite often it was his duty to pass upon a matter arising from the antagonism existing between Cuban liberators and Spanish adherents during the revolution. A man whose hair was prematurely white was brought before the judge on a charge of having legally executed a man by order of the king of Spain. The culprit was supported by his daughter, who was doing all in her power to encourage him.

"Jose Molina," said the judge. "Do you remember me?"

"I do."

"When last we met you demanded my support of the Spanish cause or my life. I was given a day in which to arrive at a final decision. The decision was not given, for that night I escaped from your house. You were only partly to blame for these acts of tyranny, for you were the unwilling tool of the tyrant. You gave me my choice between Spain and death, and yet I am under a great obligation to you, not to you directly, but through a member of your family."

The prisoner stood waiting for the judge to explain.

"It is to your daughter that you owe the life that I am about to give you, for it was she who provided for me the means of escape from your home. What I owe to her I give to you. Go free. We have had enough of these reprisals since the revolution. I will hear no more of them."

Then, turning to Rosa Molina, the judge continued:

"Senorita, I once offered to give my life to solve a problem that distressed you. You repaid me by giving me a freedom which enabled me to fight for Cuba. If I had a hundred lives with which to repay this debt I would give them all to you."

As Senorita Molina led her father out of the courtroom she turned and looked at the judge. What was in that look he understood, for not long afterward when she and her father had returned to her home a wedding was celebrated there, Judge Fernandez being the groom and Senorita Molina the bride.

### BROWNINGTON

Arthur Davies spent Sunday with friends in Barton.

Miss Gertrude Barnum has returned to her school work near Boston.

Mrs. E. S. Kelley attended the state W. C. T. U. in Barton, Friday afternoon.

Mrs. Crane and daughters have returned to their home in Somerville, Mass.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Bowen and family of Newport were Sunday visitors at Nathan Barry's.

Fred Dutton of Green Bay, Wisconsin, is visiting his cousins, W. G. and E. E. Dutton and families.

Mrs. J. J. Nichols has bought the span of colts advertised in the Monitor by S. F. Slack of Irasburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Hines and their mother, Mrs. Smith from Eden, were recent visitors at George Wiggins's.

Mrs. Stanley Marsh and her mother, Mrs. Vincent, started Tuesday morning for a three weeks' visit among relatives and friends in N. H.

### BROWNINGTON CENTER

Elmer Seymour is working for F. J. Seavey.

The teachers' meeting was held here Friday afternoon.

Miss Laura Whitehill visited in Orleans Sunday.

Delmar Whitehill recently visited in Stanstead, P. Q.

E. A. Emerson was in Lowell on business last week.

Charles Lathe took a trip to Springfield, Mass., last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Smith spent Sunday at W. P. Smith's.

Mr. and Mrs. George Young have finished work for F. J. Seavey.

John Holden of Bellows Falls is visiting at Lincoln Campbell's.

Miss Lucile Anderson and friend visited at P. G. Stone's Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Dana Clark of Barton spent the week-end at the electric mill.

George Howe of Orleans spent Sunday with his sister, Mrs. Jennie Robinson.

Will Aldrich of South Carolina has been visiting his cousin, Mrs. Vieta Wells.

Mr. and Mrs. Philo Powers and guests visited at D. W. Allen's at Orleans, Friday.

Miss Ivis Campbell has finished work at Westmore and is attending school at Orleans.

Mrs. Alma Chapman of Glover has been visiting her mother, Mrs. Amanda Powers.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace B. Russell of Wheelock were guests at Lyman Seymour's Sunday.

Mrs. Wallace Hanson and Mrs. F. L. Judkins of Barnet have been visiting at Philo Powers's.

Mrs. Roberts, who has been working at Horace Whitehill's has gone to her home in Canada.

E. A. Emerson and family and Miss Mae Emerson of Barton spent Sunday at Parker Pond in Glover.

Mrs. C. C. McDowell has been suffering with a large abscess on her face caused by an ulcerated tooth.

### MORGAN CENTER

H. O. Burroughs is home from Morrisville.

Guy Cargill from Derby was a recent visitor in town.

Clayton Cargill from Coaticook, was in town over Sunday.

J. A. Calkins was a business visitor in Island Pond, Saturday.

D. W. Scribner and H. L. Burroughs were visitors in Newport, Monday.

H. W. Danforth of Island Pond, is erecting a cottage at Lake Seymour.

Mrs. B. J. Williams visited her mother, Mrs. Wm. Crowe of Brighton, Thursday.

Mrs. Alison Tripp of East Charleston, was the guest of her son, W. C. Atkins, over Sunday.

Wilmer Elliott of Island Pond, with his son, Floyd, and daughter, Mrs. Hazel Skinner, were the guests of friends here, Sunday.

### WESTFIELD

Mrs. M. E. Hitchcock is sick.

W. H. Willey has moved into one of Mrs. Emma Miller's tenements.

Messrs. Holmes and Miller of Johnson visited at W. D. Bell's recently.

Mr. Goodhue and family of Albany recently visited at Robert Murray's.

H. W. Burnham and John Watkins were in Barton on business Thursday.

E. W. Gilpin and family of Richford recently visited at the homes of Judge Gilpin and Dana Gilpin.

Mrs. H. D. Miller and Mrs. W. A. Young attended the State convention of W. C. T. U. held at Barton last week.

Miss Ila Tenney of Newport, county delegate to the International C. E. convention, will give a report of the same at the church Sunday evening.

Mrs. Emma Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Albro Aunt and Mrs. W. D. Bell made an auto trip to Willoughby lake Sunday, stopping in Barton for church.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Larabee and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Larabee are on an automobile trip to Boston. A. C. Brown of North Troy is in charge of the creamery during Mr. Larabee's absence.

Chaplain M. W. Farman was in North Craftsbury on Tuesday, in attendance on the meeting of the Orleans county of Congregational ministers and the meeting of the General council.

On Thursday, the 9th, inst., E. H. Hitchcock and Chaplain M. W. Farman were at Pishah Lodge, Lake Willoughby, in attendance on the reunion of the Orleans county members of the present legislature and invited guests.

## NEWS FROM IRASBURG

MRS. F. A. FIELD, LOCAL EDITOR

Mrs. C. D. Kidder is quite ill.

Ed. McGoff has gone to Brandon where he has a position.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. John Dauphin Friday, Sept. 10.

W. N. Fuller of Orleans visited at H. C. Seavey's over Sunday.

C. F. Webster of Barton was a business visitor in town Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Holbrook visited relatives in Barton Saturday.

Judge Sears went to take up his duties at County court yesterday.

Mrs. J. C. Houston of Brownington visited her son, Walter, yesterday.

George Kennison's little daughter Emily has been quite ill the past week.

Mrs. P. C. Templeton has been suffering from blood poisoning the past week.

Several of our W. C. T. U. members attended the convention held in Barton last week.

Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Flint and Mrs. C. D. Bailey attended Sherbrooke fair last week.

Harry Manley also has an apple tree containing apples and a large quantity of blossoms.

The ladies of the W. M. E. church will hold their annual harvest dinner Thursday, Sept. 23.

Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Powers motored to Lennoxville, P. Q., Saturday to visit friends over Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Cook and children visited friends in Glover and Craftsburg last week.

E. O. Wells has purchased Chester Desotell's farm in Albany and will take possession Sept. 23.

Carroll Powers and John Berkewitz were in St. Johnsbury and Monroe on business last Wednesday.

Walter C. James of Laconia and Miss Ada Taylor of Richford were week-end guests of Mrs. Lucy Curtis.

C. B. McGoff and Charles Dion were in Sherbrooke one day last week to purchase lumber for their new houses.

Will the person who took the bowl belonging to Mrs. P. C. Templeton's ice cream freezer kindly return the same.

Mrs. David France was called to West Charleston last Wednesday by the serious illness of her sister, Mrs. Lewis.

Mr. and Mrs. Almond Bedell and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hoyt of Morrisville were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Russell.

Master Irvin Brewster who has spent the summer at the Brewster farm with Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Powers, returned to his home in Boston Sunday.

Mrs. Lena Thornby and son who have spent several weeks at the home of Mr.

On Wednesday, the 8th, the following named persons from here attended the funeral of Deacon P. S. Hitchcock in Coventry: Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Gascoigne, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Bell, A. J. Miller, Chaplain M. W. Farman, Mrs. Emma Miller and Mrs. Albro Hunt.

### WESTMORE

Walter Johnson has moved his family to Nashua, N. H.

Fred Rand gave some fine music on his violin at the morning service Sunday.

Mrs. Minnie Switzer and daughter Ethel visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Z. P. Berwick, the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Rand and little daughter Virginia of Washington, D. C., are visiting his parents, Rev. and Mrs. Rand.

There will be a box supper at Lake View schoolhouse Friday evening, Sept. 17. Ladies are requested to bring boxes.

(Intended for last week.)

Mrs. Holland was recently called to see her sister-in-law, Mrs. McNamara, who is very ill.

Mrs. Ida Hunt, Barton, and Mrs. Nellie Hunt of Lancaster, N. H., recently visited at M. E. Calkins's.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Tatro, Joseph Neddow, Bertha Lyon, Levi Wills and Wayne French attended the fair at St. Johnsbury.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter McCrystal and two children of Berlin, N. H., spent several days with their mother, Mrs. Emma Holland, at Lake Shore Inn recently.

WEAR HUB RUBBERS

## Farm No. 331

This is a large farm consisting of 340 acres, located in Orleans County, is on a mail and cream route. 7 miles from railroad, 4 miles from a village and the scholars are carried to school. Is on the main road, near neighbors, has telephone, and running water at both house and barn, also a good fruit orchard. Loam soil, land is smooth, rolling and has some stone, all machine mowing and cuts 75 tons of hay. There are 40 acres in tillage and 260 acres in pasture land. This farm will winter 45 head of stock and pasture 100. The pasture is watered by brooks, etc. Has good wire fences. 50 acres in woodland, 50,000 feet of soft wood timber and 150,000 feet of hardwood timber and wood. 3 1/2 miles to mill. There are 20 cords of wood in shed. The house is 1 1/2 story with an ell 15x36, painted white, has nice shade trees, cellar with a stone foundation and outside entrance. There is a pantry, new cabinet kitchen, and 6 rooms on the first floor, also a front hall, hardwood floors downstairs. There are 7 rooms, a bathroom and hall, also 3 closets on the second floor, heated by stoves, has a piazza 36x7 1/2 ft., screens and storm windows. The stock barn is in the basement of the big barn and has 6 stalls, also a carriage house 12x30, and hog-house 12x12. For personal property there are 35 cows, 1 bull, 7 calves, 6 horses, 6 swine, 15 hens, 75 tons of hay, 10 acres of oats, 1 mowing machine, 1 horse, 2 plows, 3 harrows, 1 cultivator, hay-fork, separator, all the dairy tools, chains, etc. All the small tools used on the farm, 2 new covered buggies, surrey express wagon, double wagon, double work sled, one horse wagon, light traverse, pump, 2 pairs work harnesses, 1 light driving harness. There are 2000 sugar trees, 1000 all rigged, a new sugar house, "Leader" Evaporator 16x1 ft., iron arch, and plenty of storage. This is a hill farm but a great producer, could carry 50 cows with a little work. Price for everything herein mentioned only \$11,500.

## BUCK REAL ESTATE CO.,

Newport, Vermont

Richford, Vermont

### EAST ALBANY

John Cummings recently took a trip to Barre to visit a sister.

Almon Dingman is already doing a number of jobs of threshing.

Mrs. Charles Duckles, who has been sick for a long while, is slowly recuperating.

Clark Keith is working with his gang of help in the western part of the town.

Francis and Alice Keenan are attending school at the academy at Craftsburg.

Mrs. John Merley was operated upon at her home last week and is comfortable.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Keith went to Johnson and Bakersfield on Saturday to visit relatives.

Mrs. William Snider, whose condition was very serious a short time ago, is quite comfortable at the present.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Daniels went to Burke and Lyndon the first of the week to visit friends and relatives.

Mrs. Alex Annis who recently underwent an operation at the hospital in Hanover, N. H., is slowly improving.

Fred Twombly is improving the looks of his barn by a fresh coat of paint. Elmer George is doing the work.

Maud Glover, who has been living with an uncle in Irasburg, is now staying with her father and attending school here.

Carroll Hitchcock, accompanied by his sister, recently took quite an extended auto trip visiting relatives in Franklin County.

Mrs. Josie Dutton, who recently spent two weeks visiting at George Lawrence's, has returned to her home in Concord, N. H.

## FARMS FOR SALE

No. 1112

A 200 acre farm with 200,000 ft. hardwood timber besides 1150 sugar trees. Well located, 3-4 mile to nearest village and 8 miles to hustling railroad town to Barton, Vt. On main road, near neighbors and telephone. Spring water at house and barn. Small fruit orchard. Well divided in tillage, pasture and woodland. Dark loam, little rolling and few stone. All machine work. Will winter and pasture 30 head. Good wire fences. Softwood timber for home use. One one-half story house, 24x30, ell 20x30, painted. Six rooms and pantry on 1st floor, 3 rooms and closets on 2nd floor. Piazza, storm windows. Stock barn, 45x70, stable arranged for 27 head, silo, doubleboarded, basement for manure. Good repair. Horse barn, 30x40, doubleboarded, 4 stalls. Carriage house connected to house, good repair. There are 20 cows, 6 yearling heifers, 1 full blood Gurnsey bull, 2 horses, all hay, grain and fodder, 1 mowing machine, 1 horse rake, 1 plow, 1 springtooth and smoothing harrows, 1 manure spreader, 1 separator and all small tools in good condition. One open buggy, 1 double wagon, 1 double work sled, 1 cutter sleigh, 2 work harnesses, 1 light driving harness. Price \$8000.

## C. J. OBEN & CO.

Dealers in Real Estate of all Descriptions  
NEWPORT, VERMONT

# Monday Sept. 20

We will have Fancy Colorado Peaches at \$1.25 per crate. Crates contain 70 to 80 Perfect Peaches weighing about 20 lbs. net.

## Canning Pears

50 cts. Peck

This will be the last chance to obtain Finest Fruit.

## Jelly Tumblers

With Metal Caps

25 cents - Dozen

## THE E. W. BARRON CO.

Opposite Passenger Depot

BARTON, VERMONT